

# EXHIBIT J



Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region

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Gray Davis  
Governor

June 19, 2003

Mr. Bruce Edelson, P.E.  
Qualified Settlement Fund  
28520 Meadowmist Drive  
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

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DONALD A. SMITH

## **SITE CLOSURE - LAWRY'S CALIFORNIA CENTER, FORMER CHROMAL PLATING FACILITY, 528 SAN FERNANDO ROAD, LOS ANGELES (CAO NO. 99-037; FILE NO. 95-094)**

Dear Mr. Edelson:

We have received and reviewed the *Groundwater Monitoring Report Second Half 2002, Former Chromal Plating Company Site, Former Lawry's California Center, Los Angeles* dated December 2, 2002. The report contains a summary of groundwater monitoring activities completed for the second half of 2002 and requests that this Regional Board grant site closure for the above-referenced site.

Chromal Plating operations, which began in the 1940s, ceased at this site in about 1960. The site is comprised of approximately 2.3 acres, which is currently being used as a parking area. The site is located at 528 San Fernando Road, Los Angeles. The northern portion of the former Chromal site, coinciding with the Golden State Freeway overpass and adjacent right-of-way area, is owned by California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and is deed restricted to an industrial land use. Various site assessment activities have been completed to date to characterize the site conditions. Soil was remediated to approximately 41 feet below ground surface (bgs). Shallow soil was excavated to a depth of approximately 5 feet bgs and properly disposed of off-site. Approximately 2,200 tons of non-hazardous soil was transported to Bradley Landfill, Sun Valley, California, on December 7 and 8, 1999. The soil remedial action completed at the site, consisted of in situ treatment and stabilization of chromium-impacted vadose zone soils, which involved a two-pass (treatment and then stabilization) soil mixing process. A soil closure letter dated August 10, 2000, was issued for the subject site.

Groundwater underlies this facility at approximately 40 feet bgs. Groundwater monitoring has been conducted since approximately 1993 at this site. Hexavalent chromium has been detected in groundwater beneath the site at concentrations up to 34 milligrams per liter (mg/L) (1994), before soil remediation, and with the current maximum concentrations up to 0.130 mg/L (2002), after soil remediation. In compliance with the Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO No. 99-037) issued for this site, the underlying groundwater has continued to be monitored for a minimum of 2 years following the soil remediation activities. Since the completion of the soil remediation activities, the chromium groundwater plume identified appears to have stabilized and the chromium concentrations in groundwater have generally decreased over time. Therefore, based upon the data provided and

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Mr. Eldelson  
Lawry's Chromal Site

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June 19, 2003

previous site information in our case files, and with the provision that the information provided to this Regional Board was accurate and representative of the site conditions, we have determined that no further action is required for the subject site.

All existing on site groundwater monitoring wells shall be abandoned in accordance with the California Department of Water Resources, Bulletin 74-90, and California Well Standard. Well abandonment permits must be obtained from Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LACDHS), Water Well Permits, and all other necessary permits must be obtained from the appropriate agencies prior to the start of work. Any wells not abandoned must be maintained in accordance with LACDHS requirements. A report on the abandonment of the wells must be submitted to this office by **July 31, 2003**. This report must include, at a minimum, a site map, a description of the well abandonment process, and copies of all signed permits. For wells not abandoned, please provide rationale for keeping the wells in place.

**If you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to call Dr. Rebecca Chou at (213) 576-6733 or Ms. Ana Townsend at (213) 576-6738.**

Sincerely,



Dennis A. Dickerson  
Executive Officer

cc: Leroy Castellano, City of Los Angeles  
Ayubur Rahman, Caltrans, Office of Environmental Engineering  
Jose Reynoso, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Water Well Permits  
✓ Don Smith, Conopco, Inc  
Jennifer S. Rothman, Levine-Fricke  
Joseph T. Edmiston, Mountain Recreation and Conservation Authority

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